

THOMAS LAWRENCE RIGGS

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Oahe, So. Dakota, 192  
May 8, 1930.

W. S. Campbell,  
University of Oklahoma,  
Norman, Oklahoma.

Dear Sir:-

In answer to your questions of April 22nd I write as follows:

I knew Sitting Bull from two years after he was brought back to the reservation, through to the time of his death, that is, from 1882 to 1890. I knew him not intimately, but externally quite well and my estimate of him is that he was a politician rather than a military leader. The Indians themselves never have regarded him as their leading soldier. As I say, he was a manager of men, ~~rather than~~ through craft and mental ability, rather than as their leader under difficulties where he himself was exposed to danger. You may have Agent McLaughlin's "My Friend the Indian". If so, please read his estimate of Sitting Bull. I would accept it as a very fair, unprejudiced picture. The Indians, those not his immediate followers, regarded him as a coward, and yet in spite of that estimate on their part, he had a

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